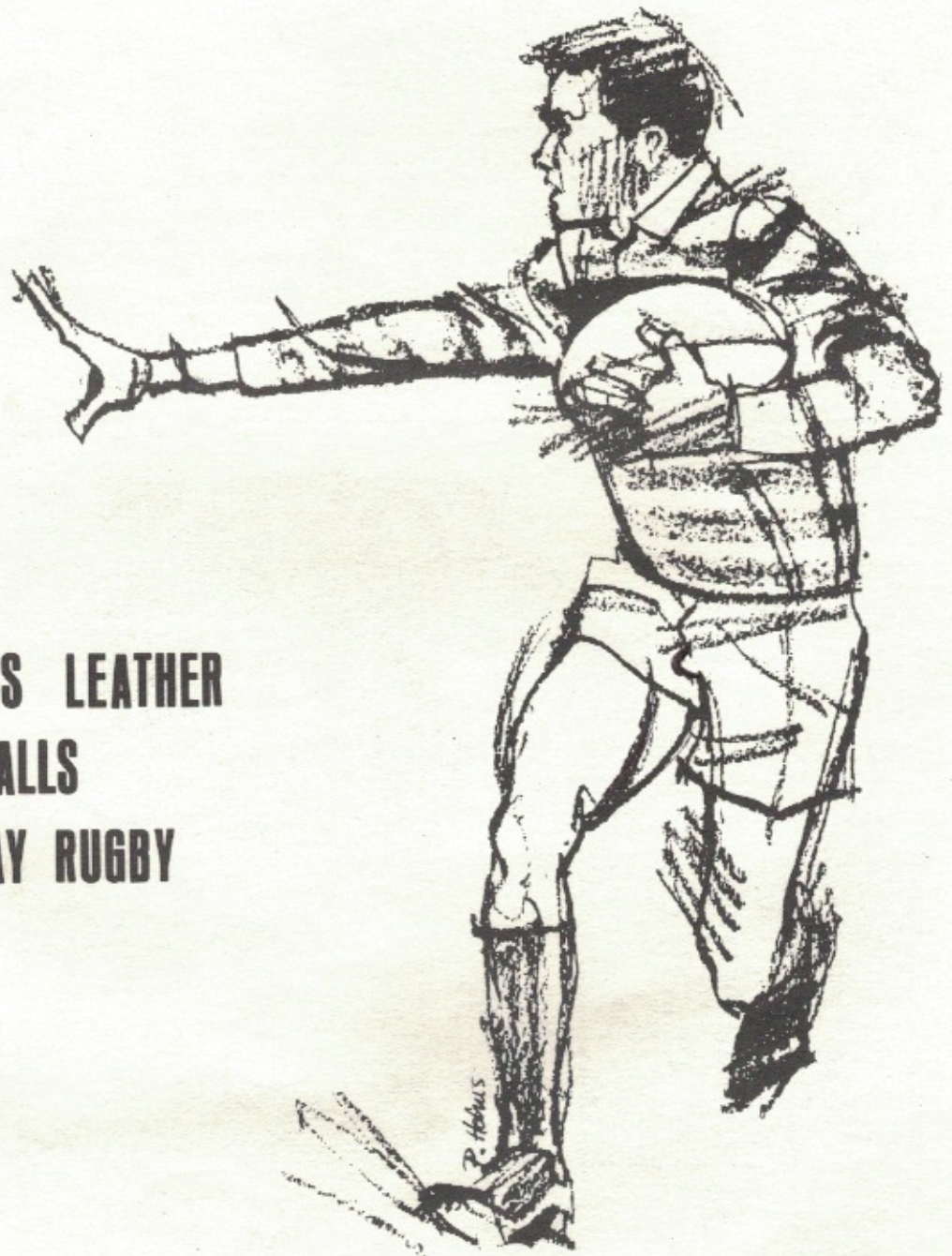


1973 Milwaukee Rugby Club

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BALLS
TO PLAY RUGBY



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WELCOME

Welcome to rugby. If this is your first game, we hope that by watching you will become interested in rugby, if not as an active participant, perhaps as an active spectator. If this is not your first game, welcome back. Rugby is such a fast moving and action-packed game that people find it difficult to stay away from the game once they have had a "taste" of it. It does, indeed, get in one's blood.

We play rugby here in Milwaukee in the spring and in the fall, with intermittent games in the summer, such as at Summerfest. Throughout the year, as you might imagine, we encounter a wide variety of weather conditions, but the game is not postponed for any type of inclement weather. On any given Saturday or Sunday throughout the spring, you may happen across thirty seemingly "mad" persons sloshing through snow or mud to their apparent delight. Do not be alarmed, it is just good "clean" fun.

Rugby is played on a strictly amateur basis in this country. People often wonder what motivates an individual to play week after week. Well, it is not any type of material or monetary reward. About the only regards one gets are the aches and pains that are so evident on Monday morning, or the occasional hangover by those over-zealous persons who party after the game as ferociously as they play the game. To play the game, you must love it.

If, after reading this and watching a game or two, you feel you would like to play, contact any rugger and you will be welcomed to join us in participating in a truly remarkable game. It may look rough but it is really a game for gentlemen.

A VERY BRIEF HISTORY

In 1823 on the playing field of Rugby School in England, a brash young lad named William Webb Ellis was competing in a school soccer match when he committed the unheard of act of picking up and advancing the ball into the opponents goal.

Ellis is thus recognized as the creator of this sport named after its birthplace. To this day a stone marker can be found on this field commemorating Ellis as "a fellow with the fine sense of disregard for the rules of soccer."

From this humble beginning Rugby has spread to all point of the globe. This violent yet graceful game can be found being played in Great Britain, South America, Africa, New Zealand, Russia and even in the beer capital of the world, Milwaukee. Our city can boost of four clubs: Milwaukee Rugby Football Club, Kodric's R.F.C., Marquette, and M.S.O.E., all members of the Midwest Rugby Football Union.

On almost any spring or fall weekend a match can be found in Milwaukee with opponents hailing from such faraway and exotic places as Fort Wayne, Ind., Kalamazoo, Mich., or St. Louis, Mo.

The game is not played only for it's athletic reward but also for its social enjoyment. After a hard fought and oft-times bloody match Ruggers applaud each other off the field and retreat to a favorite tavern where the hometown team throws a party for the visitors. Amid the sloshing of beer and hearty laughter can be heard some sweet songs and sad laments such as "The Sexual Life of a Camel", "I Don't Want To Join The Army", "If I Were The Marrying Kind", and the never-never-ending "Saga of Eskimo Nell". And thus combatants become comrades until their next chance to thump heads.

The Milwaukee Rugby Football Club would like to invite athletes, non-athletes and especailly fellows with that fine sense of disregard for the rules to join us. It is a great way to make a friend and a helluva way to work up a thirst.

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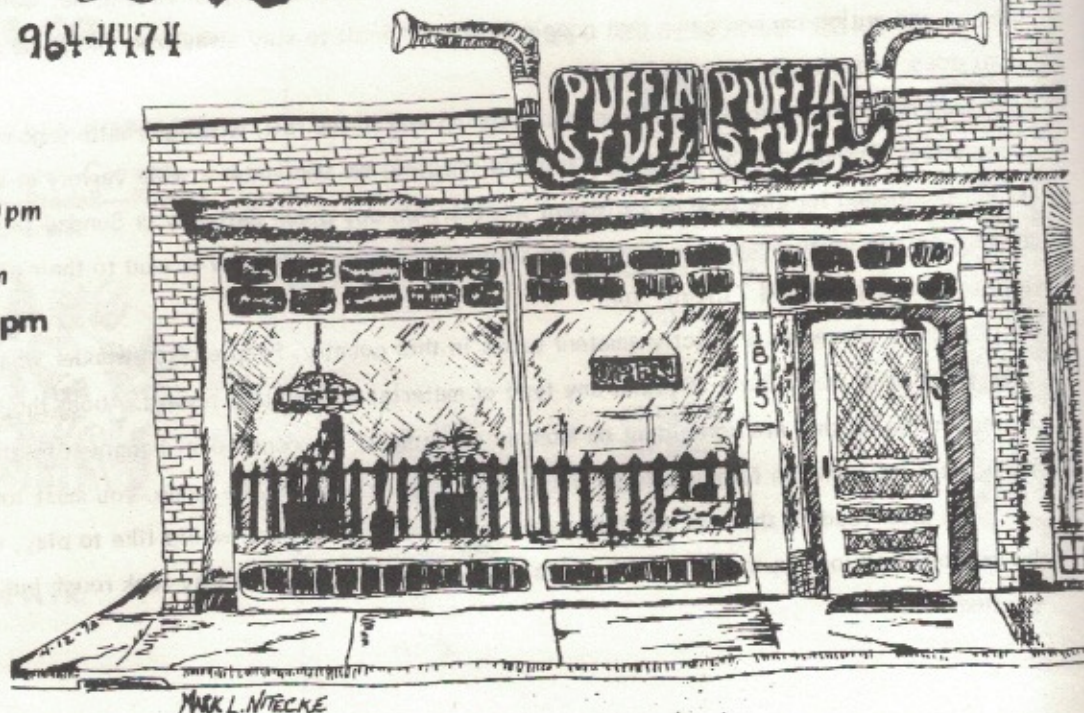
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THOUGHTS ON RUGBY

.... a game for gentlemen in all classes, but
never for a bad sportsman in any class.

— Rt. Rev. W.J. Carey.

.... I protest unto you that it may rather be
called a friendly kind of fight than a play or
recreation — a bloody and murdering practice
than a fellowly sport or past-time. For does not
everyone lie in wait for his adversary, seeking
to overthrow him and put him on his nose . . . ?

— Philip Stubbes (English Puritan).

Oh Lord, let this game end soon!

— anonymous Milwaukee forward.



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THE GAME OF RUGBY IN BRIEF

In many ways, Rugby is the most elemental game of all. Each side attempts to ground the ball beyond their opponents' goal line. Their opponents attempt to stop them by tackling the man who has the ball. Nothing could be simpler: no pussyfooting about, as in soccer, no World War-III-plus-committee-organization, as in American Football, no bludgeoning your way to victory, as in field hockey, lacrosse, or hurling. Rugby is a simple, man-to-man contest for a blown-up pigskin.

However, with thirty men engaged, even the simplest game can become congested. So there are laws.

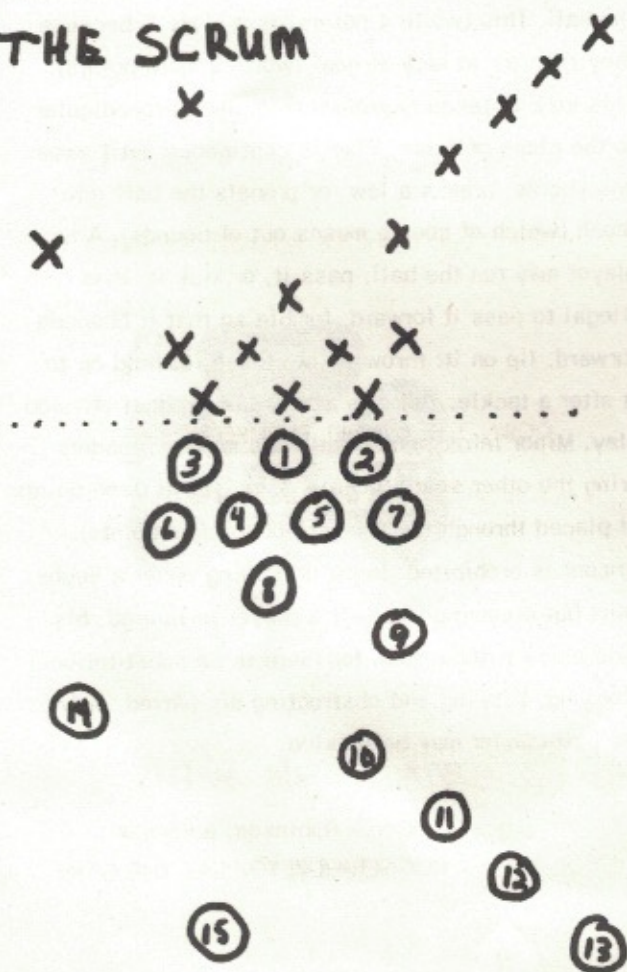
Here is a brief description of the game:

Rugby football is a handling game. Each side has 15 players: eight forwards and seven backs. The forwards deliver the ball to their backs, who advance with speed and cunning, passing it from one to another, or not, as the passion takes the. Thus they try to cross their opponents' goal line and ground the ball. This (worth 4 points) is a "try", because they then try to kick at goal (worth 2 more points). This kick is taken anywhere on a line perpendicular to the place of score. Play is continuous until someone scores, breaks a law, or propels the ball into touch (which of course means out of bounds). Any player may run the ball, pass it, or kick it. It is illegal to pass it forward; fumble so that it bounces forward; lie on it; throw it into touch; or hold on to it after a tackle. There is also a law against off-side play. Minor infractions result in a scrum; blunders bring the other side a penalty kick (worth three points if placed through the uprights of the goalposts). Armour is prohibited: there is nothing under a Rugby shirt but steaming flesh. If a player is injured, his side plays without him, for there is no substitution. Blocking, tripping and obstructing are barred; only the ball-carrier may be tackled.

— Derek Robinson, author of
RUGGER-HOW TO PLAY THE GAME.



THE SCRUM



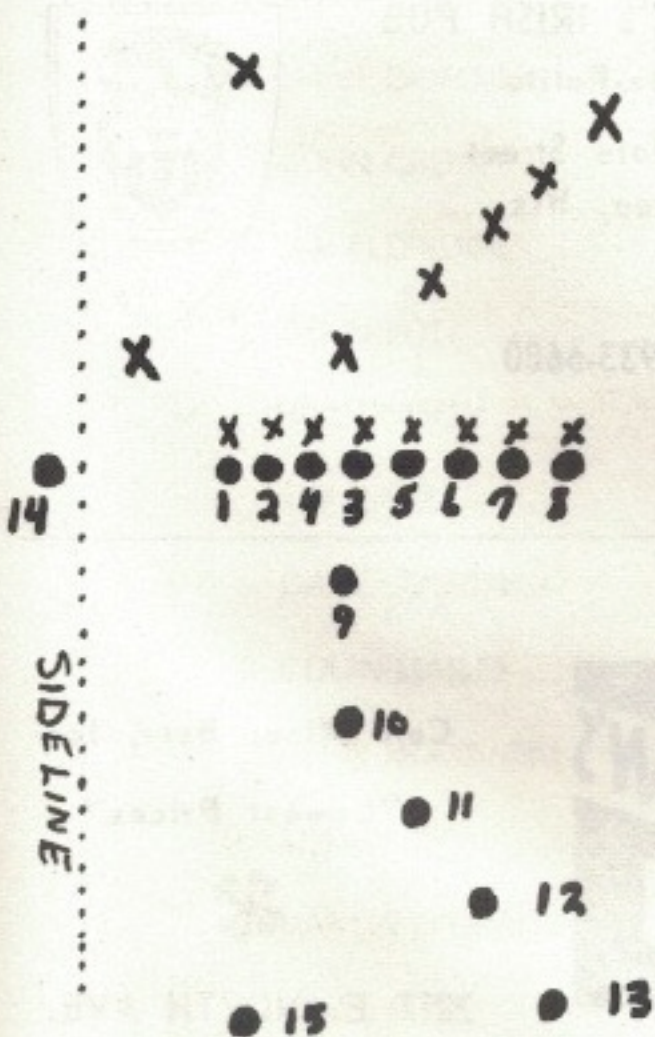
THE NUMBER OF THE POSITIONS ARE THE SAME.

THIS IS THE FORMATION OF THE SET SCRUM.

PLAYERS 1 THROUGH 8 ARE THE FORWARDS, 9 THROUGH 15, THE BACKS, A SCRUM RESULTS WHEN ONE TEAM COMMITS A MINOR INFRACTION OF THE RULES; THE SCRUM IS THEN AWARDED TO THE OTHER SIDE. THE FORWARDS FROM ONE TEAM BIND TOGETHER AND THEN LOCK ONTO THE OTHER TEAM'S FORWARDS. THE BALL IS THEN PLACED IN BETWEEN THE TWO TEAMS BY THE SCRUM HALF. THE FORWARDS MUST THEN HEEL THE BALL TO THE REAR OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SCRUM TO THEIR BACKS.



THE LINEOUT



POSITIONS:

1. HOOKER
2. PROP
3. PROP
4. SECOND ROW
5. SECOND ROW
6. WING FORWARD
7. WING FORWARD
8. EIGHTH MAN
9. SCRUM HALF
10. FLY HALF
11. INSIDE CENTER
12. OUTSIDE CENTER
13. WINGER
14. WINGER
15. FULLBACK

A LINEOUT OCCURS WHEN THE BALL IS PROPELLED OUT OF BOUNDS, OR INTO "TOUCH", BY A PLAYER. TO RESTART THE GAME, THE OTHER TEAM THROWS THE BALL DOWN THE TUNNEL FORMED BY THE FORWARDS OF BOTH TEAMS. UPON THE THROW-IN, THE FORWARDS OF BOTH SIDES JUMP FOR POSSESSION OF THE BALL, THUS GETTING THE GAME UNDER WAY AGAIN AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

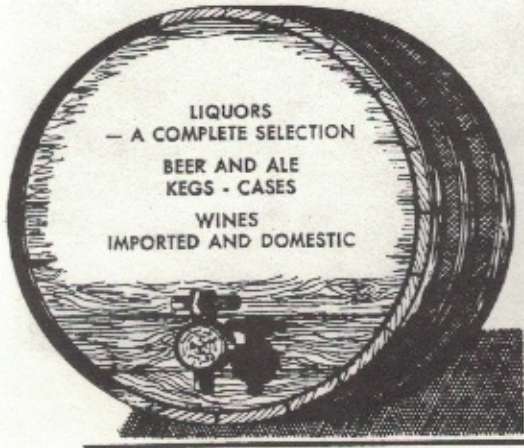
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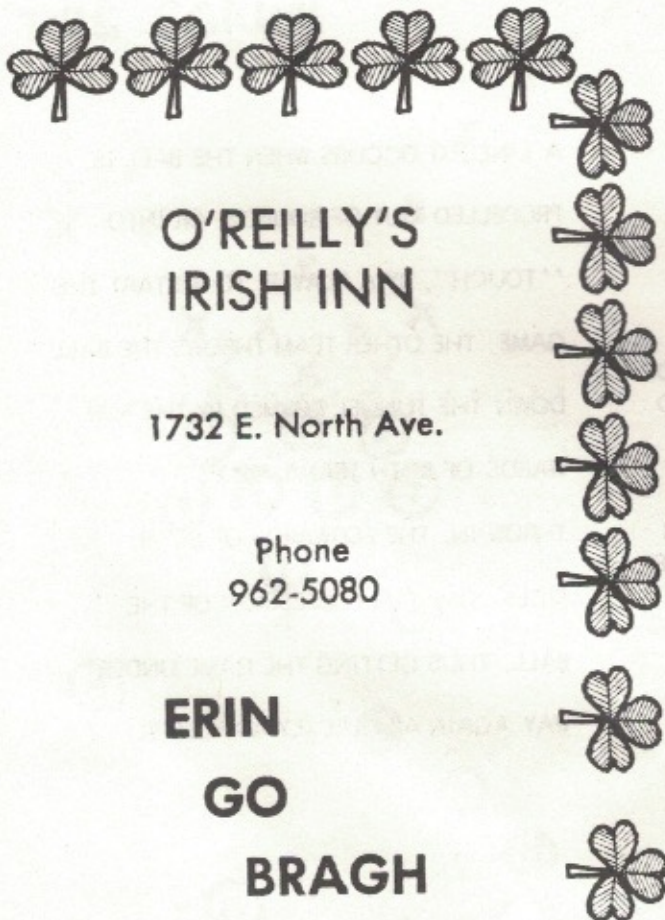
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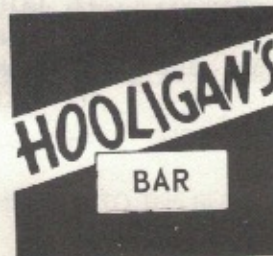
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1973 Fall Schedule

Sept. 15	University of Wisconsin	Away
Sept. 22	Purdue University	Away
Sept. 23	Fort Wayne	Away
Sept. 29	Chicago Lions	Away
Oct. 6	Lincoln Park	Home
Oct. 13	MSOE	Home
Oct. 20	University of Illinois	Home
Oct. 27 & 28	Quad City Tournament Davenport, Iowa	
Nov. 3	University of Minnesota	Away
Nov. 4	Minneapolis	Away

*Check the paper for exact times and sites and dates for additional games.

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Milwaukee Rugby Club*

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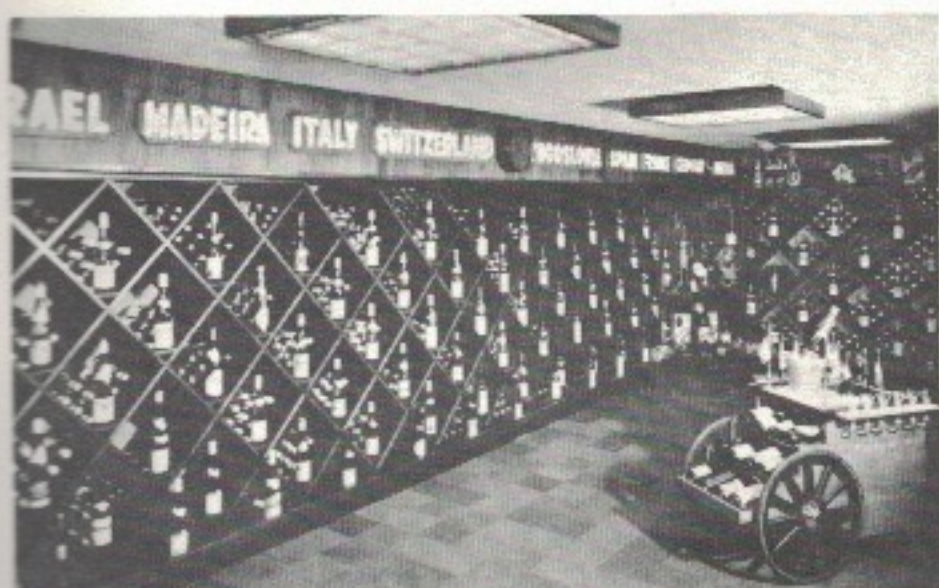
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